## Vitamin D deficiency in congenital ichthyosis

- Vitamin D, a fat-soluble vitamin, has its first prohormone being synthesised in skin after exposure to ultraviolet B (UVB) light.
- Initial correction and maintenance of vitamin D and calcium does not require urinary calcium:creatinine ratio. In addition to improvement in bone health, this takes around 4–10 weeks depending on the severity; improvement in cutaneous disease is also documented, around ten days as noticed by Sethuraman G *et al*.
- In a recent study conducted by Mahajan *et al.*, although there was a statistically significant difference in mean vitamin D levels between the ichthyosis phenotypes, there was no correlation between the serum vitamin D levels and ichthyosis severity scores, thus emphasising the necessity of screening for Vitamin D deficiency in all congenital ichthyosis patients, including those with milder phenotypes.

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	Investigations	
Hormonal	- Serum 25-hydroxyvitamin D	
	(25OH-D)	
	- Serum parathyroid hormone (PTH)	
Biochemical	- Alkaline phosphatase (ALP)	
	- Serum calcium (Ca <sup>2+</sup> )	
	- Serum phosphate	
	- Urinary calcium-creatinine ratio	
Radiological	- X-ray distal wrist and knees (sites of	rapid bone growth)
	- Other sites (costochondral junction, s	,
	- Dual energy X-ray absorptiometry sc	ean (DEXA scan)
Treatment		
	Vitamin D <20 ng/mL	Vitamin D <20 ng/mL
	WITH clinical rickets	WITHOUT clinical rickets
Intensive phase	Cholecalciferol 60,000 IU weekly for 10	Cholecalciferol 60,000 IU weekly for
	weeks +	four weeks +
	elemental Ca <sup>2+</sup> 50–75 mg/kg/day	elemental Ca <sup>2+</sup> 50–75 mg/kg/day
	Review in 12 weeks with repeat X-rays	
	and labs	
	- Healed → maintenance phase	
	- Not healed → continue till	
	radiological healing seen	
Maintenance	Cholecalciferol 400 IU (infants) – 600 IU	Cholecalciferol 400 IU (infants) – 600
phase	(children >1 year) daily +	IU (children >1 year) daily OR
	elemental Ca <sup>2+</sup> 50–75 mg/kg/day to be	Cholecalciferol 60,000 IU monthly +
	given lifelong	elemental Ca <sup>2+</sup> 50–75 mg/kg/day to be
	Review in three months with 25-OH-D and	given lifelong
	PTH	

## Stoss therapy for vitamin D deficient rickets

□ Particularly helpful for patients with poor compliance to therapy

Yearly bone and lab parameters

Follow- up

- Oral administration of 100,000–600,000 IU vitamin D daily (over a period of 1–5 days) followed by eight weeks of 400–1000 IU Vitamin D daily OR 50,000 IU Vitamin D weekly

Yearly lab parameters

## **SUPPLEMENTARY FILES: Additional references**

- 24. Gupta P, Dabas A, Seth A, Bhatia VL, Khadgawat R, Kumar P, et al. Indian Academy of Pediatrics Revised (2021) Guidelines on Prevention and Treatment of Vitamin D Deficiency and Rickets. Indian Pediatr 2022;59(2):142-58.
- 25. Mahajan R, Bakshi S, Chatterjee D, De D, Saikia UN, Handa S. Clinico-epidemiologic profile of non-syndromic congenital ichthyosis a retrospective chart review of 107 Patients. Indian J Dermatol 2024;69:113-8.